

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1 1. A method for organizing email messages received by a user,
2 comprising:

3 detecting receipt of email messages;

4 determining if the received email messages identify a recipient to which an
5 original email message was transmitted by the user; and

6 organizing responsive content from at least two independent received email
7 messages in a consolidated file such that responsive content that pertains to a given
8 email exchange is contained within a single file.

1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein determining if the received email
2 messages identify a recipient comprises determining if senders of the received email
3 messages were recipients to which the original email message was transmitted.

1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein organizing responsive content
2 comprises organizing the responsive content from at least two independent received
3 email messages that comprise direct responses to the original email message.

1 4. The method of claim 1, wherein organizing responsive content
2 comprises organizing the responsive content relative to content of the original email
3 message.

1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein organizing responsive content
2 comprises comparing content contained within the received email messages with
3 content contained within the original email message transmitted by the user to identify
4 common content.

1 6. The method of claim 5, wherein organizing responsive content further
2 comprises omitting the common content so as not to provide multiple copies of
3 originally-transmitted content.

1 7. The method of claim 1, wherein organizing responsive content
2 comprises organizing the responsive content in accordance with a date and time that
3 the responsive content was received.

1 8. The method of claim 1, wherein organizing responsive content
2 comprises organizing the responsive content in accordance with at least one of a
3 sender name, a size of the responsive content, a priority of the sender, and an
4 identified importance with which the responsive content was sent.

1 9. The method of claim 1, wherein organizing responsive content in a
2 consolidated file comprises organizing the responsive content in a consolidated email
3 message.

1 10. The method of claim 9, wherein organizing the responsive content in a
2 consolidated email message comprises organizing the responsive content in a
3 consolidated email message presented in an email application inbox in lieu of the
4 independent incoming email messages.

1 11. The method of claim 1, further comprising organizing new content that
2 is responsive to previously-organized responsive content in the consolidated file by
3 associating the new content with the previously-organized responsive content.

1 12. A system for organizing email messages received by a user,
2 comprising:
3 means for monitoring receipt of email messages;
4 means for detecting receipt of email messages;
5 means for determining if the received email messages were sent by a recipient
6 to which an original email message was transmitted by the user; and
7 means for organizing responsive content from at least two of the independent
8 received email messages sent by a recipient in a consolidated file such that all
9 responsive content that pertains to a given email exchange is contained within a single
10 file.

1 13. The system of claim 12, wherein the means for organizing responsive
2 content comprise means for comparing content contained within the received email
3 messages with content contained within the original email message transmitted by the
4 user to identify common content, and further comprising means for omitting the
5 common content so as not to provide multiple copies of originally-transmitted content.

1 14. The system of claim 12, wherein the means for organizing responsive
2 content comprise means for organizing the responsive content in accordance with at
3 least one of a date and time that the responsive content was received, a sender name, a
4 size of the responsive content, a priority of the sender, and an identified importance
5 with which the responsive content was sent.

1 15. The system of claim 12, wherein the means for organizing the
2 responsive content comprise means for organizing the responsive content in a
3 consolidated email message provided in an email application inbox in lieu of the
4 independent incoming email messages.

1 16. The system of claim 12, further comprising means for organizing new
2 content that is responsive to previously-organized responsive content in the
3 consolidated file by associating the new content with the previously-organized
4 responsive content.

1 17. A message organization manager stored on a computer-readable
2 medium, the manager comprising:

3 logic configured to determine if received email messages identify an intended
4 recipient to which an original email message was transmitted by the user; and

5 logic configured to organize responsive content from at least two independent
6 received email messages that were determined to identify an intended recipient in a
7 consolidated file such that all responsive content that pertains to a given email
8 exchange is contained within a single file.

1 18. The manager of claim 17, wherein the logic configured to determine if
2 the received email messages identify an intended recipient comprises logic configured
3 to determine if senders of the received email messages were recipients to which the
4 original email message was transmitted.

1 19. The manager of claim 17, wherein the logic configured to organize
2 responsive content comprises logic configured to compare content contained within
3 the received email messages with content contained within the original email message
4 to identify common content, and further comprising logic configured to omit the
5 common content.

1 20. The manager of claim 17, wherein the logic configured to organize
2 responsive content comprises logic configured to organize the responsive content in
3 accordance with a date and time that the responsive content was received.

1 21. The manager of claim 17, wherein the logic configured to organize
2 responsive content comprises logic configured to organize the responsive content in
3 accordance with at least one of a sender name, a size of the responsive content, a
4 priority of the sender, and an identified importance with which the responsive content
5 was sent.

1 22. The manager of claim 17, wherein the logic configured to organize
2 responsive content in a consolidation file comprises logic configured to organize the
3 responsive content in a consolidated email message that is provided in an email
4 application inbox in lieu of the independent incoming email messages.

1 23. The manager of claim 17, further comprising logic configured to
2 organize new content that is responsive to previously-organized responsive content in
3 the consolidated file by associating the new content with the previously-organized
4 responsive content.